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NY ASKT (220)

CHICAGO, SEPT. 1 (AP)-THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE SAID TODAY THE STATE DEPARTMENT "DOWNGRADED" THE IMPORTANCE OF A GOVERNMENT PAPER PUBLISHED AUG. 23 "BY A SIGNIFICANT DELETION IN A COVERING MEMORANDUM."

A DISPATCH FROM THE NEWSPAPER'S WASHINGTON OFFICE RELATED THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT REMOVED A "SECRET" LABEL FROM A REPORT OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY ON "TRENDS IN THE WORLD SITUATION."

THE CIA FIRST REPORTED ON THESE TRENDS IN FEBRUARY, THEN AGAIN IN JUNE, THE NEWSPAPER SAID, AND IT WAS THE JUNE REPORT, RELEASED AUG. 23 THAT WAS "DOWNGRADED" BECAUSE, THE NEWSPAPER SAID, THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAD LEARNED THE REPORT WAS TO BE MADE PUBLIC BY THE TRIBUNE LAST SUNDAY.

STATE DEPARTMENT PRESS OFFICER ROBERT J. MCCLOSKEY REPEATED HIS STATEMENT OF LAST WEEK, SAYING: "IT (THE CIA PAPER) IS NOT, NOR DID IT PURPORT TO BE, A STATEMENT OF POLICY ON THE SUBJECTS WHICH IT DISCUSSED...IT WAS A PAPER THAT HAD NOT BEEN REVIEWED BY HIGH OFFICIALS OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT, DEFENSE DEPARTMENT OR THE WHITE HOUSE."

SOME OF THE CHANGES IN THE JUNE REPORT WERE MINOR, THE TRIBUNE SAID.

THE JUNE REPORT DEALT WITH THE SITUATION IN SOUTH VIET NAM AND THAT THE CIA HAD CONCLUDED "NO END IS IN SIGHT" TO THE PROBLEMS IN THAT COUNTRY, THE TRIBUNE SAID.

THE NEWSPAPER POINTED OUT THAT A REFERENCE IN THE ORIGINAL REPORT DEALING WITH POPE PAUL'S VISIT TO THE HOLY LAND WAS DELETED.

IN ANOTHER SECTION OF THE REPORT, DEALING WITH "POLITICAL INSTABILITY" IN LATIN AMERICA, THE TRIBUNE SAID, THE PHRASE "REVOLUTIONARY PLOTTING, SOME OF IT STIMULATED FROM ABROAD" WAS CHOPPED UP AND THAT PORTION STATING "SOME OF IT STIMULATED FROM ABROAD" WAS DELETED.

THE ARTICLE, WRITTEN BY WILLARD EDWARDS, ADDED THAT THIS LATTER PHRASE WAS DELETED "PRESUMABLY BECAUSE IT DID NOT ACCORD WITH THE 'RUSSIA IS MALLOWING' THEME WHICH PERMEATED THE DOCUMENT."

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